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SEAFDEC AQD Matters

In-house newsletter of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan, Iloilo

AQD celebrates 36th anniversary



Dr. Toledo, Atty. Sarmiento address the crowd during the 36th anniversary program



Dr. Marte and Mr. Agbayani reminisce on AQD's early years and give the audience some inspirational words as well



Mr. Manuel Garcesto, who retires from AQD after 34 years of service, receives a certificate of appreciation from Dr. Toledo and Dr. Azuma



A barrio-fiesta anniversary theme was the perfect excuse for AQD employees to be at their Filipiniana best

On the bright and sunny morning of July 9, the AQD community, guests and well-wishers were in a barrio fiesta mood, gathering to commemorate AQD's 36th founding anniversary.

AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo reflected on this year's theme, *SEAFDEC/AQD: Committed to mitigate the effects of climate change through responsible aquaculture*. He acknowledged that climate change is a huge issue, and for aquaculture, its effects are just being felt though not yet fully studied.

At AQD, it was observed that milkfish breeding has lengthened to become year-round, and as a result, production of milkfish fry has been year-round too. While definitely good for milkfish culture, he also noted the negative effects of climate change for fishing communities. In Malalison Island where AQD has a coastal fisheries resource management project, for example, the beach has been eroded by stronger storms while bleaching has occurred in coral reefs.

The keynote speaker, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Director and SEAFDEC Council Director Atty. Malcolm Sarmiento praised AQD, saying that AQD's "brand of aquaculture" is different, anchored on unwavering commitment to sustainable aquaculture through science-based research.

With aquaculture being the new centerpiece of the Philippine

government's food production program, Atty. Sarmiento noted the national policy to encourage fishers to switch from capture fisheries to fish farming. In this vein, he requested AQD to assist BFAR in formulating a 5-year development plan for high-value species to be reared in mariculture parks throughout the country. Moreover, he hopes to collaborate with AQD on projects that will result in developing more innovative approaches to climate change.

Dr. Clarissa Marte, Head of Technology Verification and Demonstration Division, gave an inspirational talk and reminisced about the early years as well. She started by noting that AQD's population is now composed of four generations, with the pioneering staff in their 60s belonging to the first. Dr. Marte recalled that she and her colleagues joined AQD without any knowledge about fish, having come from various backgrounds. Over the course of their work did they learn to love fish and work with fish. She reminisced about some of the groundbreaking work they did, including milkfish breeding and, with former AQD Chief Dr. Flor Lacanilao, the multidisciplinary approach in implementing the fisheries resource management project in the island of Malalison. She hoped that AQD staff continue to love their work, find fulfillment in it, and remain challenged by it.

Mr. Renato Agbayani, Head of the Training and Information Division, also shared

his experiences and wisdom.

According to him, the reason he lasted long at AQD was because of his love and passion for his work. He echoed Dr. Marte's advice to value, find fulfillment, and enjoy work. Moreover, he espoused the value of being a good worker. He further said that SEAFDEC has been a good provider, and has enabled him to provide shelter for his family, educate his children, and enjoy the little pleasures in life. He closed by paraphrasing the famous words of US President John F. Kennedy: "Ask not what SEAFDEC can do for you, but what you can do for SEAFDEC."

Dr. Toledo and Deputy Chief Dr. Teruo Azuma awarded certificates of appreciation to employees and retirees who have served AQD for at least 20 years. One retiree, Mr. Manuel Garcesto of the Administrative and Finance Division, urged the employees to serve the Department "with utmost sincerity."

Where does AQD go from here? Dr. Toledo pointed to the new strategic plans to show the way. He also reiterated AQD's vision *to be a global leader in the generation and transfer of appropriate and sustainable tropical aquaculture technologies for food security and holistic human development*. He also thanked AQD staff, government agencies, and other stakeholders for their contributions through the years.

Happy 36th, AQD!

AQD launches new publications



From top:
Mr. Agbayani, Dr. Primavera,
Dr. Azuma and Dr. Eguia



Nine new publications were launched by AQD last July 9.

The *Highlights 2008* and *Strategic plans 2009-2012* institutional reports, *The Malalison Experience* storybook, *Training handbook on rural aquaculture*, and the flyers on *Milkfish culture in sea cages* and *Research collaboration at SEAFDEC/AQD* were introduced by Mr. Renato Agbayani.

AQD Scientist Emerita Dr. Jurgenne Primavera talked about the *Field guide to Philippine mangroves*. This colorful 8-page user-friendly guide is laminated to withstand water and mud when brought on mangrove assessment surveys.

AQD Deputy Chief Dr. Teruo Azuma presented the aquaculture extension manual (AEM) entitled *Seed production and grow-out of mud crab (Scylla paramamosain) in Vietnam* on behalf of the author Mr. Nguyen Co Thach. This

29-page manual, a co-publication with the Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 3 (RIA3) – Vietnam, contains information on the biology and techniques in the larval rearing, nursery and grow-out of *S. paramamosain*.

The AEM on *Philippine freshwater prawns (Macrobrachium spp.)* was presented by first author Dr. Maria Rowena Eguia. She thanked the GOJ Trust Fund for the support in undertaking the prawn taxonomic survey, which was the basis for the manual.

After the presentations, complimentary copies of the newly launched publications were handed out in a turn-

over ceremony to sectoral representatives from government agencies, the academe, fish farmers, local government units, and the private sector. Copies were also raffled to the audience.

“Congratulations sa publication *Malalison Experience!*” former AQD Chief Dr. Flor Lacanilao enthused. He added, “Well done. You might consider republishing some of the 28 publications resulting from the studies listed at the end of the booklet. You might also do this republication for your other non-valid publications and make a significant increase in published papers for AQD without much cost.”

Happy reading!

Research seminar, Dean DK Villaluz lecture



Dr. Suarez (top) and
Dr. Siringan discuss science
& society and sea warming,
respectively

The TID Conference Room was packed for a research seminar and the *Dean Domiciano K. Villaluz memorial lecture* last July 9.

Dr. Raul Suarez of the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology of the University of California, Santa Barbara talked on *The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department in Philippine science and society*. According to him, data have shown that the reason the Philippines is poor is the lack of “intangible capital,” i.e., the skills and education of its people, their ability to work together to achieve common goals, and the quality of social institutions. He also noted that, sadly, the country

lags behind its neighbors in scientific productivity, and that science has not contributed significantly to increasing intangible capital.

Dr. Fernando Siringan of the Marine Science Institute of the University of the Philippines Diliman delivered the memorial lecture, an annual event held in honor of Dean Villaluz, AQD’s first Chief.

In his presentation on *Temporal trends of sea surface temperature in the Philippines and some possible consequences*, Dr. Siringan revealed that sea surface temperatures (SST) around the Philippines and its internal seas are getting warmer. Data also showed that the seas

along the Pacific seaboard warmed by about 1.5°C over the past 90 years at a rate accelerating over the past 25 years.

What are the negative effects of SST rise? Dr. Siringan mentioned that changes in shallow and deep-ocean water primary production have been observed. Certain dinoflagellates associated with harmful algal blooms, such as *Pyrodinium bahamense*, also flourish in warmer waters. In addition, the rising sea levels in the Philippines is due to the warming of the seas. Thus, coastal erosion and worsening floods along the coastal plains have persisted in the country.

AQD anniversary week in pictures



Research Division staff do not look too shabby after the do-day cleanup last July 4



The back of TID Building will soon turn a shade of green thanks to the tree-planting activity held last July 6. Sporting a grin and a green thumb, AQD Deputy Chief Dr. Teruo Azuma (rightmost) joins in



The doctor is in: a medical mission was held at AQD's Medical and Dental Services Building last July 7, where families residing near AQD were able to avail of free consultation and medicines



Twenty-three AQD staff donated their precious blood in a drive organized by Philippine National Red Cross and AQD. The activity took place July 7 at the TID Conference Room. A total of 23 bags of blood were collected that day



Ms. Asug participants dazzle the audience in their evening gown. Binibining Asinina, *nee* Rafael Barrido (center, with scepter) of TVDD, took home the crown on the pageant night held July 7 at the Kinaadman Foundation Elementary School



Give love on Anniversary Day: Dr. Toledo hands out gifts of fish and rice to locals on July 9



Blessing the brand-new AQD bus to safely transport staff to and from work last July 9



BFAR Director Atty. Malcolm Sarmiento, Ms. Milagros dela Peña, Dr. Joebert Toledo, BFAR Region 6 Director Drusila Esther Bayate and Dr. Clarissa Marte were all smiles as they cut the ribbon to ceremonially open AQD's new small-scale backyard hatchery last July 9



AQD staff tussle over the goodies hanging from the *pabitin* during the Larong Pinoy held on the AQD grounds on July 9

Module 2 of milkfish cage culture in Guimaras

What storm? Participants of the second phase of the Season-long training course on milkfish cage culture module 2 braved the inclement weather and gathered at the covered municipal gymnasium

of Nueva Valencia, Guimaras from July 30-31.

A total of 92 trainees from the barangays of Igang, Magamay, and Sto. Domingo participated in the training course.

The first day consisted of lectures and practical sessions in fish stocking and sampling by Mr. Alex Babol of AQD's Igang Marine Station. Ms. Dianne Hope Tormon also took the floor, handed out socioeconomic survey forms/questionnaires to the participants, and patiently explained how to fill them out.

On the second day, Dr. Relicardo Coloso discussed the nutrient requirements of milkfish and other tropical aquaculture species, as well as feed and feeding practices to reduce cost and pollution. This was followed by Dr. Mae Catacutan's lecture and hands-on session on aquafeed formulation, processing of feed ingredients and feed preparation.

The second phase of the milkfish culture project is a collaboration between AQD, Petron Foundation Inc, and Citi Philippines.



Clockwise from top left: Ms. Tormon works up the crowd for some breathing exercises during a session break; the participants take notes; getting up close and practical in Dr. Catacutan's session on aquafeed preparation; Dr. Coloso feeds the trainees' need for knowledge in his lecture on fish nutrition; Mr. Babol makes his point in the lecture and practical session on fish handling and stocking



Abalone training yields five graduates

Five trainees successfully completed the *International training course on abalone hatchery and grow-out* conducted by AQD from July 2-22, with funding support

from the Government of Japan Trust Fund.

The five trainees included Mr. Ibnu Rusdi from Indonesia; Ms. Naw Deborah from Myanmar; Ms. Ma.

Christi Nacido from the Philippines; Mr. Jun Ming Zann Tan from Singapore; and Mr. Supakant Chaichotranunt from Thailand.

For the duration of the training, the participants underwent extensive lecture and practical sessions on hatchery management, culture of natural food organisms, grow-out, harvest, and financial feasibility analysis. It was not all hard work, however, as the trainees also took time off their hectic schedules for field trips.

At left are some pictures to tell the story of the training that was.



AQD bags two awards



Dr. Quinitio (as one of the co-authors) receives the Dr. Elvira O. Tan Memorial Award from Dr. Rafael Guerrero, LBSCFI Chair, R&D Awards Committee for Aquaculture & Marine Fisheries; and Dr. Robert Zeigler, LBSCFI President; (inset) first author Dr. Ramos



The awards keep on coming for AQD.

The prestigious *Dr. Elvira O. Tan Memorial Award* for best paper under the aquaculture and inland fisheries category was won for the paper *Evaluation of hatchery-based enhancement of the mud crab, Scylla spp. fisheries in mangroves: Comparison of species and release strategies* written by Maria Junemie Hazel Lebata-Ramos, Lewis Le Vay, Mark Walton, Joseph Binás, Emilia Quinitio, Eduard Rodriguez

and Jurgenne Primavera.

The awarding ceremony took place July 24 at the SEARCA Auditorium in Los Baños, Laguna. In behalf of the main author, Dr. Emilia Quinitio received a plaque from the Los Baños Science Community Foundation, Inc. (LBSCFI) and cash award from the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD).

Dr. Quinitio earlier presented a synthesis of the paper to the Los Baños science community.

With the victory, AQD continues on its legacy of producing award-winning

papers in aquaculture. AQD has been the recipient of the Elvira O. Tan Memorial Award more than 20 times, the earliest of which was given in 1987.

Dr. Ramos receives more accolades, having been chosen as one of the three winners of the *Japan international award for young agricultural researchers 2009* given out by the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS).

Dr. Ramos will have a 15-minute presentation during the awarding ceremony slated on November 4 at the University of Tokyo in Japan.

Bookwriting workshop at AQD



(From left) UPV's Prof. Tayo and CHED's Dr. Perez talk on translating jargon and the status of fisheries education in Region 6, respectively



AQD held a bookwriting workshop last July 8 held at the TID Conference Room.

Senior staff from AQD's three divisions (RD, TVDD, TID) participated in the workshop.

The first speaker, Prof. Gilma Tayo of the University of the Philippines Visayas, shared her experiences in writing two textbooks in her presentation on *Translating jargon: introduction*



The two workshop groups tackle aquaculture science and socioeconomics & policy

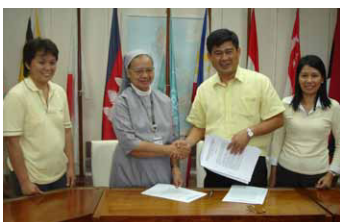
to bookwriting. She defined a textbook as a topic book, a theme information package, a guide to the teaching process. She also mentioned the need to define the target clients and goals of the book and the materials needed. She also went through the entire process of bookwriting, from writing to printing.

Dr. Gregorio Perez of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Region 6 on the other hand updated the participants on the *Status of fisheries education in Western Visayas*. He noted that there are 11 schools in the region currently offering fisheries degree programs, with enrollment ranging from zero to 613.

In the afternoon session, participants were divided into two groups for the workshop, which was facilitated by Prof. Tayo and Dr. Relicardo Coloso, chair of AQD's Publications Review Committee. It was decided that AQD will publish three textbooks – one tackling Aquaculture Science and the other two to deal with Socioeconomics and Policy. Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson will coordinate the first textbook, with Dr. Nerissa Salayo and Mr. Renato Agbayani handling the other two.

The participants identified a time frame for the publication, the target audience and promotional activities for the textbooks.

AQD, SPU ink accord



St. Paul University (SPU) based in Iloilo City joins the growing list of AQD partner institutions with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) last July 10.

The MOU was signed by AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo and SPU president Sr. Carolina Agravante at AQD's Tigbauan

Main Station. AQD Research Division Head Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson and SPU Research Director Ms. Imelda Olaguer served as witnesses.

The pact aims to develop collaborative training and extension programs; promote the exchange of scientists between the two institutions for

instruction, training and related activities; and strengthen the capabilities of both AQD and SPU in the fields of fisheries, aquatic and related sciences, with emphasis on sound environmental practices.

The MOU took effect from the day of signing and is good for five years.

Region 12 1st investment conference

Scientist Dr. Ma. Lourdes Aralar represented AQD at the *Region 12 first investment conference* (ICON) held last July 22-23.

The conference, adopting the theme *Channeling substantial resources towards investments*, was conducted at General Santos City.

Dr. Aralar presented the available technology



Participants of the break-out session on *ulang* culture

for the larval rearing, nursery and grow-out of the giant freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*, locally known as *ulang*.

At the end of the break-out session for *ulang*, P4 million worth of investments have been tagged by interested participants/investors who want to venture into the culture of the commodity. It was noted that the supply of *ulang* cannot keep up with the demand, hence, investments on its culture was included in the ICON.

Also included were lectures on the technology, financing and market matching for investors on

eco-tourism site development; coconut sugar; sap and honeybee production; *barako* coffee; sunflower farming; engineering and architectural designs; pineapple; moringa (*malunggay*); and cardava banana.

After the conference, Dr. Aralar was toured by one of the conference speakers, Mr. Marjun Villanueva of SCAMPI Fresh GenSan, to one of the restaurants he is supplying with *ulang* from his farm. They also visited the GenSan Fishport with its HACCP facilities for tuna export, as well as areas for landing fish harvests for local consumption.

The conference was organized by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), National Economic Research and Business Assistance Center (NERBAC) Region 12, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (SMED) Council of General Santos City, and the Department of Tourism.



Dr. Aralar (seated, 3rd from left) with other resource persons and staff of DTI Region 12, one of the conference co-sponsors

2nd hito conference in GenSan



Dr. Catacutan talks about formulating feeds out of indigenous materials for catfish

AQD's Dr. Mae Catacutan and Ms. Antonietta Evangelista participated in the *2nd hito conference* held in General Santos City last July 21.

Dr. Catacutan was on hand to present a paper



(From left) Ms. Rochelle Otoc, *Pangasius* Industry Desk Officer of Region XXII; Ms. Evangelista, and Mr. Lao, President of the Mindanao Business Council

on *Formulated feeds out of indigenous materials for catfish*, while Ms. Evangelista talked about the *Status of catfish aquaculture industry in the Philippines and Natural food for freshwater species*.

Both were able to present AQD's contribution to the the catfish industry in the Philippines which includes the studies on hatchery, nursery as well as grow-out technologies for the culture of the native catfish *Clarias macrocephalus*. Because of this, AQD was officially identified by the Mr. Vicente Lao, president of the Mindanao Business Council, as

one of the lead agencies to help the catfish industry.

Queries on disease management and feed cost were raised and answered by Dr. Catacutan and Ms. Evangelista.

Problems on the slow growth and low survival of hatchery produced fry (*Pangasius* species) were also brought up.

The Department of Trade & Industry 12, Bureau of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources 12 and the SOCSARGEN Catfish Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SOCAFAMPC) were the main sponsors of the event.

Fish genetics research seminar at PCAMRD

Fish genetics research at the Auburn University was the topic of a research seminar AQD scientist Dr. Maria Rowena Eguia attended last July 13 at the PCAMRD Auditorium in Los Baños, Laguna.

The speaker, Dr. Rex Dunham, focused mainly on their group's work on conventional selective breeding programs as well as

modern molecular techniques as applied in the genetic improvement of the channel catfish *Ictalurus punctatus*.

He also mentioned work from the early 1980s up to the present, which includes the development of methods to make transgenic catfish sterile for containment or biosafety purposes.

Dr. Dunham also discussed the current work

in the university's molecular genetics laboratory led by Dr. Zhangjiang Liu.

In the open forum that followed after the seminar, Dr. Eguia solicited Dr. Dunham's impressions on the status of the commercialization of transgenic fish and acceptability of genetically modified fish in the United States.

Forum on GM technologies

Dr. Maria Rowena Eguia presented a paper on the current *Local situation on GM technology: focus on GM tilapia during the Forum on GM (genetic modification) technologies* organized by the Network Opposed to Genetically Modified Organisms (NO2GMOs!).

The forum took place last July 20 in Diliman, Quezon City.

International trends on new GM technologies and modern biotechnology applications (GM tree, GM virus, GM pharma, GM fish) were discussed by Dr. Camilo Beltran, a Mexican biochemist.

He gave a very simple but exhaustive presentation on the commercialization of GM crops developed recently and their risks on human health.

The other presenters – Dr. Chito Medina and Dr. Chito Mendoza – talked about research done locally in genetically modified rice, papaya, eggplant, papaya and peanuts, among other crops.

A paper by Atty. Ping Peria on *Different strategies in pushing GM in the Philippines* was also distributed to the audience.

Dr. Eguia's presentation, entitled *Are we ready for 'Franken' tilapia*, was well-received by the audience. The

attendees were relieved to know that farmed GM fish have not been commercially approved for distribution. The NO2GMOs was pleased to note that AQD upholds the *Code of conduct for responsible aquaculture*, which states that the use and propagation of GMOs is not encouraged in SEAFDEC member-countries.

Dr. Eguia hopes that in the future, AQD resource persons continue to participate in similar fora so that the general public is made aware of the issues/problems that arise from the use and/or misuse of modern biotechnologies.

Consultative meeting on aquafeed standards

by Mark Matubang, DA-BAFPS

AQD scientist Dr. Relicardo Coloso took part in a *Consultative meeting to draft a Philippine National Standard (PNS) for aquaculture feeds*.

The meeting, which took place last July 16, was held in Bacolod City to present the draft PNS and solicit feedback from stakeholders.

Dr. Coloso presented an *Overview of Philippine aquaculture feed industry*. Future prospects, according to Dr. Coloso, include improved formulations for environment friendly feeds for sustainable aquaculture, more information on micronutrient requirements, additives and enhancers. He also mentioned that new areas

for aquaculture development and new formulations of feeds for various species will expand the aquaculture feed market by at least 5% that would cause more pressure on feed resources. Inadequate formulation of aquaculture feeds may affect the income of aquaculture farmers/operators and eventually the quality of the environment. The need for quality control in aquaculture feeds is very important to safeguard the health of the consumers. Aquaculture feed millers and aquaculture farmers/operators must be responsible to make sure that the feeds they manufacture or use pass certain standards.

The development of this standard was started in 2007 when the National Agriculture and Fisheries Council-Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFC-CFA) created a group to work in identifying fish and fishery commodities for standardization.

Aquaculture feeds was identified and recommended by the NAFC-CFA Working Group on Fisheries Product Standardization because of its economic importance.

This activity is one of four meetings as a prerequisite prior to the approval of the standard as PNS.

Visitors from Angola, Papua New Guinea tour AQD



Dr. Toledo, Atty. Sarmiento and Mr. Pokajam explore the sea cucumber setup

Guests from Angola and Papua New Guinea paid AQD a visit on two separate dates this July.

On July 7, His Excellency, Hon. Dr. Salomao Xirimimbimbi, Angolan Minister of Fisheries and party visited AQD's Tigbauan Main Station to explore possible research collaboration with AQD.

Accompanying Dr. Xirimimbimbi were Hon. Flavio Fonseca, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Angola; Hon. Etienne Brechet, Philippine Honorary Consul General in Luanda, Angola; and Hon. Virgilio Reyes Jr, Philippine Ambassador to Pretoria.

The guests were shown AQD's institutional video to give them a background on AQD's work. They were then



From left: AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo, Research Division head Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson, Dr. Xirimimbimbi, Amb. Reyes, Amb. Fonseca, and Consul General Brechet at the marine fish hatchery

given a tour of AQD's research facilities.

On July 29, Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority Managing Director Mr. Sylvester Pokajam and Assistant Research Officer Mr. Jerome Tioti dropped by AQD to discuss possible collaboration activities, particularly those involving tilapia, catfish, carp, freshwater prawns, sea cucumber and abalone.

Also joining them were officials from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), including Director Atty. Malcolm Sarmiento Jr, National Freshwater Fisheries Technology Center Chief Mr. Melchor Tayamen, BFAR Region 6 Director Drusila Esther Bayate, and Mr. Augusto Natividad of Frabelle Fishing Corp.

RiSci faculty, students tour BFS

AQD's Binangonan Freshwater Station (BFS) played host to the faculty and students of Rizal National

Science High School (RiSci) based in Binangonan, Rizal.

The visit, which took place last May 22, aimed

to expose the students to various research facilities of BFS and acquaint them on the different research and training undertakings of AQD. The visit also gave students some insights in preparing a research proposal.

The visitors – comprised of more than 200 students, six teachers and four Parent, Teacher and Community Association (PTCA) officers – were divided into two batches during the lecture presentation, and into four during the tour of facilities.

The visitors were fascinated with the varied aquatic life forms reared and maintained at the station.



BINANGONAN FRESHWATER STATION
AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT
SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT



Clockwise from top left: Faculty and students with a giant freshwater prawn; AQD Associate Researcher Ms. Antonietta Evangelista briefs students on BFS' activities at the bighead carp hatchery; BFS Head Engr. Emiliano Aralar receives gifts and a certificate of appreciation from a grateful RiSci; RiSci and BFS staff bond after a hard day's work

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Aquaculture Week 2009 winners

Write, Draw, and Tell a Mangrove Story: *"Mangroves are important to me and my community"* 9 contestant teams from 9 elementary schools (ES)

Prize	Winners	Age	Gr	School
1st	Anne Kathrine Chong Carel Faith Gicana Coaches: Shiela Sorilla Susan Herga	11	6	Central Philippine University ES
2nd	Lindric Ricardo Dino III Venise T. Buenaflor Coach: W Torrecampo	12	6	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus
3rd	Marc Kean A. Crucero Jessery T. Casanova Coach: Joera A. Berte	12	6	Molo I ES

Nutrition and Aquaculture Quiz 30 contestants from 15 ES

Prize	Winners	Age	Gr	School
1st	Micah Danielle Lojera Coach: Tessie C. Po	12	6	Kinaadman ES
2nd	Ace Nino Ambonan Coach: Jean O. Diomon	12	6	Leganes ES
3rd	Danielle Liza Molina Coach: Mary Ann Saladar	11	6	Central Philippine University ES

Bring, Show, and Tell: *"Invertebrates from the mangroves, live!"*

8 contestant teams from 8 ES

Prize	Winners	Age	Gr	School
1st	Anne Kathrine Chong Val Jason Guerra Coaches: Rachel Albestor Liza Q. Espada	11	6	Central Philippine University ES
2nd	Ercel Joy Tondo Gem Tan Coaches: Ofelia Lingaya Analyn Miraflores	10	5	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus
3rd	Nelrose Dawn Balsicas Cymon Aurel Tuvilla Coaches: Maridel Taa-san	10	4	Nanga ES

Aquarium Quiz: *"Lantawa!"* 30 contestants from 15 ES

Prize	Winners	Age	Gr	School
1st	Marvee Auel Gayo Coach: Lorna Falsario	12	6	Miagao Central ES
1st	Janielle Pearl Mariano Coach: Mona A. Mirasol	10	5	Oton Central ES
1st	Celine Joy Melendez Coach: Rogelio Cautivar	11	6	Hibao-an ES
1st	Nina Azila Sainz Coach: Cinderela Sotaridona	11	6	Hibao-an ES
1st	Eli Gene Tisuela Coach: Cecilia Cordova	12	6	Kinaadman ES
2nd	Cedric Fritz Biso Coach: Leizl Castroverde	10	5	Central Philippine University ES
2nd	Apryl Joyce Catalan Coach: Amparo Solarte	12	6	Central Philippine University ES
2nd	Johann Ruiz Jr. Coach: Ofelia Lingaya	10	5	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus
2nd	Ma. Rafaela Sumergido Coach: Analyn Miraflores	11	6	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus

Photojournalism: *"Mangroves into ponds is not so bad!"*

11 contestants from 11 high schools (HS)

Prize	Winners	Age	Yr	School
1st	Oscar Jinon Jr Coach: W Torrecampo	16	4	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus
1st	Janet D. Tanagras Coach: Norman T. Duga	16	4	Parara Nat'l HS
2nd	Hyacinth Grace Sorilla Coach: Bonifacio Garvilles	16	4	Guimbal Nat'l HS
2nd	Mary Jeanette Tagabi Coach: Mark Tacadao	16	4	Tubungan Nat'l HS
3rd	Jan Rayman J. Arnaldo Coach: Debbie Natividad	15	4	Ramon Avancena Nat'l HS

Painting: *"Mangroves support life"* 13 contestants from 13 HS

Prize	Winners	Age	Yr	School
1st	Mary Beatrice Gison Coach: Alexandro Alabado	13	1	Colegio de San Jose
2nd	Joana Marie Enriquez Coach: Ana Maria Dagway	16	4	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus
3rd	Irish W. Lim Coach: Ma. Fe Montealto	15	4	Ramon Avanceña Nat'l HS

Seafood Dish Contest: *"Fish from aquafarms: masarap na, healthy pa"*

11 dishes from 6 HS

Prize	Winners	Age	Yr	School
1st	Camille Marie Reyes Coaches: Emellie Palomo Agustin Divinagracia III	16	4	West Visayas State Univ. Integrated Lab School
2nd	Jestoni P. Anog Coach: Josephine Andrino	17	4	Ramon Avanceña Nat'l HS
3rd	Maria Jorelen Casipe Coaches: Elsie Gancia Ofelia Lingaya Elsie Gancia Marieta Edquila	15	4	Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus

Japanese Taste Award (from Dr. Teruo Azuma)

Mary Ivy Tacadao	15	4	Tubungan Nat'l HS
Coaches: Dolores Tabion Leonila Tababa			

Palaro 2009: Lapu-lapu conquers Alimango

For weeks, the combatants (teams Alimango and Lapu-lapu) slugged it out in individual and group competitions testing their strength, speed, stamina, unity and smarts. In the end, though, one team emerged the victor.

When all the scoresheets have been tallied, Team Lapu-

lapu had a decisive win over Team Alimango, 147-128.

The awarding ceremony took place July 7 at the AQD grounds.

Palaro 2009, which officially started May 22, adopted the theme *SEAFDEC promotes a healthy lifestyle through adequate fish diet and exercise.*



From top: Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson and Dr. Teruo Azuma receive the trophy for the winning team; Dr. Joebert Toledo and Atty. Jerry Opinion accept the second-place trophy from 2009 Palaro Committee Chair Dr. Leobert dela Peña (in yellow); Dr. Toledo lowers Team Alimango's flag

Aquaculture Week 2009 at AQD

July 27-31 was a busy week at AQD's FishWorld, which conducted the annual Aquaculture Week celebrations.

The activity aims to engage local elementary schools and high schools in studies of the marine environment, aquaculture, and fisheries.

This year's theme revolves around mangroves, partly to honor AQD Scientist Emerita Dr. Jurgenne Primavera and her Pew Fellows grant. Dr.

Primavera has agreed to award two Pew trophies to the Best Performing Elementary School and the Best Performing High School.

Students and teachers from elementary and high schools in Iloilo City and nearby municipalities took part in contests such as *Write, draw, and tell a mangrove story*; *Nutrition and aquaculture quiz*; *Bring, show, and tell*; *Aquarium quiz*; and the *Seafood dish contest*.

Moreover, sessions on painting and photojournalism were conducted. A *Mangroves and aquaculture workshop* was also scheduled at AQD's Dumangas Brackishwater Station.

Best performing school honors for the year went to Central Philippine University Elementary School and Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus High School. Turn to page 9 for the full list of winners.

